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# 07/21/1994 - Contract for New Greek Court Housing Approved

University Marketing and Communications

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July 21, 1994

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTRACT FOR NEW GREEK COURT HOUSING APPROVED

CHARLESTON -- At their regular meeting today in Springfield, the Board of Governors Universities trustees approved a request by Eastern Illinois University President David Jorns to award an Effingham firm a \$2.7 million contract to construct additional fraternity/sorority housing at the university.

The \$2,733,330 contract went to the lowest bidder, Grunloh Construction Inc. of Effingham. Standerfer Construction of Mattoon presented a bid of \$2,886,870.

Construction of two additional fraternity/sorority houses in Eastern's Greek Court complex on Ninth Street will begin immediately and will be completed in fall 1995.

One building will house three sororities and a fraternity affiliated with Eastern's Black Greek Council. The second will house two sororities and a kitchen facility for the entire Greek Court complex.

Another Eastern project approved by the BGU trustees will allow the

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university to proceed with the renovation of the outdoor running track at O'Brien Stadium.

The board approved a \$574,000 bid from Martin Surfacing Inc. of Hunt Valley, Md., for the track renovation project.

The original low bidder, Balsam Corp. of St. Louis, Mo., filed for bankruptcy in June and has since asked to cancel its \$563,088 contract with EIU.

Repairs include resurfacing the existing running track and field event runways, installing storm and track drainage systems, constructing a track and field runway and jumping pit and installing sand traps at the perimeter of each jumping pit.

The track will be completed in September 1994. For the first EIU home football game on Sept. 1, visitors will be able to watch the game from the stands, but will have to walk around areas of the track that are being repaired.

In other action, the board approved a request by Jorns to purchase five lots on the corner of Ninth Street directly across from Buzzard Building. The purchase must also be approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

If approved by the IBHE next month, the university will purchase the lots for \$242,000 and demolish the four rental houses at the location to make room for a 150-space student and staff parking lot. It initially will be used as construction parking for the Buzzard Building renovation project to begin in December 1994.